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THE OBSERVATOR.

The Revolution *further Vindicated in Point of* Reſiſtance, *from the Examples and Practice of the* Primitive Chriſtians: *As alſo from that of the* High-Church *Party. Remarks on a new Libel to the Tune of the* Memorial.

From Saturday October the 13th, to Wednesday October the 17th, 1705.

Obſ. I Come, now, Honeſt *Country-man*, to prove the Point of *Reſiſtance* in Juſtification of the *Revolution* from the Precedents made us by the *Primitive Chriſtians*; to which we ought to adhear, rather than to the Opinions of the *Pſudo-Eccleſiaſticks* of the *Church of England*, which we may very properly call the *Fanatick Church of England*; for they differ more from the *True Church*, than thoſe to whom they have, for a long time, given the Appellation of *Fanaticks*.

It is well known to thoſe who have Read the Old Accounts, how Vigorouſly the *Primitive Chriſtians Oppoſed* and *Reſiſted* their Emperor *Lucinius*, when, in breach of *Faith* and *Law*, he Perſecuted them. And, as if this had not been enough, they entered into an *Offenſive-Alliance* with *Conſtantine* the Great, who heartily joyn'd with them in *Reſiſting* the *Tyrant*. And *Euſebius* ſaith of him, *That he held it his Duty to deliver an Infinite Number of Men, by Cutting off a few wicked Ones, as the Peſts and Plagues of the times.*

When *Aſper* was propoſed to be made Emperour, without any Conſiderations of *Hereditary-Right*, or any other his Pretenſions to Government, he was *Oppoſed* by the *Primitive Chriſtians* of *Conſtantinople*; but they Conſented to the Nomination of *Leo*, becauſe they knew him endow'd with the Neceſſary Qualifications for Government, which the other had not.

When the King of *Perſia* commenc'd a Bloody *Perſecution* againſt the *Chriſtians* in that Country, they took Arms in their own *Defence* and *Reſiſted* him, and not only ſo; but they Negotiated with *Theodoſius*, the *Roman* Emperour, who enter'd into Alliance with them, and told the King of *Perſia*, *He was ready to Defend them, and in no wiſe to ſee them ſuffer for Religion.*

So did the Chriſtians of *Armenia Major* make a League with the *Romans*, for the ſecurity of their *Perſons* and *Religion* againſt the Oppreſſive Violence of the *Perſians*, under whom they Lived.

And when they have had no Alliance with Powers, *God* has wonderfully Aſſiſted them in their *Reſiſtance* againſt Confederated Enemies of great Strength. As when the *Novatians* Aſſiſted by the *Orthodox*, *Reſiſted*, *Beat*, and entirely *Routed* the *Macedonians*, tho' they were Aſſiſted by *Conſtantius*, the Emperour, with four thouſand Choſen Men to drive them from *Paphlagonia*.

And Pray where were the Doctrines of *Paſſive-Obedience* and *Non-Reſiſtance*, when the *Primitive-Chriſtians* Deſtroy'd *Julians* Idolatrous Temple in his Reign?

Did the *Primitive Chriſtians* think *Reſiſtance* Unlawful when they oppoſed thoſe two Perſecutors, the Emperors *Maxentius* and *Maximinius*, when they, with the Aſſiſtance of *Conſtantine* the Great, Fought and Conquer'd in ſeveral Battles thoſe two Royal Sons of the *Blood-Bowl?* This was *Reſiſtance* with a Witneſs. Prayers and Tears were then us'd too; they prayed that *God* would Convert theſe *Imperial Perſecutors*; but they did not lye in the Ditch and cry *God* help only, they uſed the ordinary means for their Safety, which *God* had allowed, and which *Nature* had dictated, *Vim vi repellere.*

The *Fanaticks* of this preſent time would have Condemn'd as a *Rebel*, *Lucifer Calaritanus*, whom I find in ſome Books called *De Cagliari*, who wrote a Book againſt *Conſtantius* the Emperor, and when he had done ſent it him to Read; in this Book he charges him and his *Fanatical Biſhops* with *Idolatry*, and calls 'em *Blaſphemers*; charges him with inviting the *Chriſtians* to come over to *Idolatrous Worſhip*, and tells him plainly, That *he ought to be put to Death for ſo doing, by the Command of God*, in *Duet.* 13. where *God* declares, *That he that ſecretly intices to* Idolatry *ſhall be put to Death.*

That great Biſhop *Athanaſius*, and the *Chriſtians* that followed him, highly approved of this Book, who calls it, *The Light of* Truth, *the Doctrine of the* True Faith. And ſays he to *Calaritanus*, *How came you to underſtand the Senſe and Meaning of the Scripture ſo perfectly, if the Holy Ghoſt had not Aſſiſted you in it?* I hope the *High-Church* will not oppoſe the Doctrine of *Athanaſius*, ſince they ſo highly approve his Creed.

Certainly, if he that only intices to *Idolatry* is worthy of Death, he that is Aiding and Aſſiſting towards the bringing *in* of *Idolatry*, is much more worthy of Death? And this I leave to thoſe who call themſelves of the *Church of England*, and yet are for bringing *in* the St. *Germains* Pretender, with a long Train of *Idolatry* and *Superſtition.*

And this alſo may ſerve to Illuſtrate the *Seaſonableneſs*, *Equity*, and *Juſtice* of the *Revolution*, by which the Throne of *Popery* fell, the *Graven Images* moulder'd into Duſt, and *Idolatry* and *Superſtition* ſunk beneath the Preſſure of a *Righteous Cauſe*, by which we recover'd our *Ancient Conſtitution*, and the *Immemorial Rights* of our Anceſtors.

Let us come nearer Home, and take a view how the *Lutheran Churches* defended themſelves againſt the Emperor, *Charles* the Fifth. How the *Hungarian Proteſtants*, *Anno* 1608. took up Arms againſt *Matthias*, King of *Hungary*, in Defence of their *Native Rights* and their *Holy Religion.*

Let us come now quite Home, and ſee how Queen *Elizabeth* Aſſiſted the Diſtreſſed *Hollanders* againſt their Lawful Soveraign. How She Aſſiſted the Perſecuted *Proteſtants* of *France* againſt their Lawful Soveraigns, *Charles* the Ninth, and *Henry* the Third. Did not King *Charles* the Firſt, the *Biſhops*, *Clergy*, *Nobles* and *Commonality* of *England* Aſſiſt the *Proteſtants* of *France?* At the Invitation

Invitation of the *German Protestants*, did not *Gustavus Adolphus*, King of *Sweden*, come to their Relief; and at their Request, wage War against their Lawful Soveraign, who Persecuted them?

Now, according to the Charitable Christian Doctrines of *Passive-Obedience* and *Non-Resistance*, Queen *Elizabeth*, King *Charles* the First, the *Bishops* and *Clergy* of *England*, with all the Foreign Potentates that have in this manner Assisted the Injur'd *Protestants*, have all of 'em been Guilty of St. *Paul's Damnation*. For those that are Aiding and Assisting to *Rebels*, are as Guilty as those that are in actual *Rebellion*.

Had this Doctrine been Dead five Years ago, many of those People in the *Cevennes* would have been preserv'd Alive by a timely Assistance.

Will it boot us any thing, Honest *Country-man*, to tell the *High-Flyers*, That they themselves were for *Resistance*, and for that *Revolution*, which now they call a *Rebellion*, and which they tell us destroy'd our *Constitution*, and the *Civil-Rights* of the People, depending thereupon?

If the *Revolution* was a *Rebellion*, they were the greatest *Rebels* concern'd in it. For if I may believe a Noble Lord that was deeply concern'd in the *Revolution* (and I have not the least reason to Discredit what he told me) *Sancroft*, Arch-Bishop of *Canterbury's* hand was the first to the *Memorial* Inviting over the Prince of *Orange*: And was there one *Dissenters* hand to that *Memorial*?

Where was the *Passive-Obedience* of *High-Church* when their Chiefs refus'd to Read the Kings Declaration for *Liberty of Conscience*? When they deny'd him a Free and Peaceable Entrance on the Premises of *Magdalen-Colledge*? When their Arch-Bishop *Sancroft* Summon'd a Council at *Guild-Hall*, of which he was President, the King being still in the Kingdom, and not Elop'd, where they did then and there, contrary to the Doctrines of *Passive-Obedience*, instead of sending for the King, send for the Prince of *Orange*, and not only so, but they seized on the Kings chief Magazine, the Tower of *London*, and appointed the Lord *Lucas* Lieutenant thereof, by the Recommendation and Vote of the Arch-Bishop of *Canterbury*.

This, Honest *Country-man*, makes it the more *Barbarous* and *Base* in the *Faction*, to tell us in this Reign, *That by the* Revolution *we lost our* Constitution, *and that all our* Civil Rights *depending thereupon ceas'd with it*. At this Juncture to stamp *Damnation* on *Resistance*, and to send the *Primitive Christians* to the Devil; when, by their *Resistance*, the *Protestant Religion* is ours at this Day, and without it we should have had no *Church of England*. This is Base and Monstrous indeed.

Country-m. They Damn themselves as well as the *Primitive Christians*. But, Master, our *High-Flyers* are doubly Damn'd; because they account *Resistance* a *Damnable Sin*, and yet they *Resist* against their own *Principles*: But why they should *Rouse* their *Natures* against the *Queen* and *Ministry*, my Country Capacity cannot comprehend.

Obs. Why, truly, because the *Queen* will not be Ruin'd by their *Precipitate Councils*; because She will not Sacrifice Her *Regal Dignity*, the *Church* and the *Liberties* of the *People*, to the *Revenge* and *Malice* of a *Party*, that have Ruin'd Her *Ancestors*, and would *Un-Queen* Her *Majesty*. Who are never pleas'd with any *Prince* that will not suffer 'em either to *Bleed* or *Burn* the Nation. Mr. *Hickeringill* has hit 'em home in his New Peice, call'd the *Survey of the Earth*. Pag. 49.

Passive Obedience, *when the* Queen *does ease them*,
But Swords *and* Jack-Boots *when She dare displease them.*

On which I find a Comment in Page 56. *For if She will not give Her Ears to be Poisoned, as were Her Predecessors, with* High-Flown Politicks, *and Her* Scepter *Guided and Over-Ruled by* Priest-Craft; *then* Nature Rebels against Principle, *as in the late* Hectoring Memorial, *Farewel*---Passive Obedience--*Good Night*--*Give me* my Jack-Boots--*and now look to thy House David.*

Country-m. Master, what's the meaning of that New Book I brought you, 'tis so full of Dashes that I don't understand the meaning of it. I hope the Press will be Regulated, that we may know who Writes Books, and that they may Write out as we do; tho' I think we have got nothing by it: We have always had some Bodies Name to our Paper, and yet we have met with the most Trouble.

Obs. Honest *Country-man*, I will Decypher for you the Title Page of this Book. *'Tis the State of the* Church *and the* Dissenters, *in respect to their Present Pretensions, and those they expect by means of their pretended Interests in the Ensuing Parliament; with the* Church of England *Burnt in Effigie: Or, the* Impolitic Cities *Stratagem: A Tragedy.* As it was Acted at the *Royal-Exchange*, in the City of *London*, *September*, 1705.

More Work for *Robbin Hog*. If this Book escapes the *Hang-Mans Hand* and the *Flames*, the *Citizens* are much altered in a little time.

But, Honest *Country-man*, here's a little Light given us. Thou hast been often enquiring what this *High-Fanatick-Church* of *England* is. Now here they tell us, *That the* Memorial *was the* Effigies, *the* Picture *of that* Church.

Country-m. And if the *Picture* be like the *Original*, 'tis a confounded ugly *Rebellious Church*, I am sure of that. Ha! is that the *Church*? Ord-a-Mercy Honest *Citizens* for Burning her, like the *Pope* that would set the Nation in a Flame. I always thought her to be some such Deform'd thing, by the crooked, ill-Natur'd, Splay-footed *Disciples* that are of her *Communion*. This is a *Church* in the *Devils* Name, and the *Memorial* is its *Articles* of *Faith*. The *Disciples* of *Ignatius Loyala* cou'd not have desir'd a better. But, pray, Master, what is in the Book?

Obs. 'Tis the Second part of the *Memorial*, and its Argument is to prove that the *Queen* and Her *Ministry* are a *Faction* combin'd to destroy the *Church* and our *Constitution*. I could make as large Remarks on this *Libel*, as I did on that call'd the *Memorial*; but I have better and more Necessary Business on my hands; but since the *Ministry* is sufficiently Abused in the *Libel*, 'tis in their Power to give it a more Effectual Answer than I can do, and there I leave it.

Country-m. Come, Master, here's a Good Health to the *True Church* of *England*, and our brave Honest *Protestant Bishops*.

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